

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SEOUL 00841 010721Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02

/057 W

-----010723Z 002356 /13/70

P R 310858Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1828

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 0841

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y T E X T

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PINT KS US

SUBJ: PRESS GIVES FAVORABLE NOTICES TO NDP CHAIRMAN'S PRESS  
CONFERENCE

SUMMARY. ALL MAJOR NEWSPAPERS GAVE NDP CHAIRMAN'S NEW YEARS'  
PRESS CONFERENCE FAVORABLE NOTICES, ALTHOUGH DRP AND YUCHINGHOE  
GAVE LITTLE MORE THAN PRO FORMA ATTENTION TO CONFERENCE. END  
SUMMARY.

1. ALL MAJOR NEWSPAPERS GAVE NDP CHAIRMAN YI CHOL-SUNG'S NEW  
YEAR'S PRESS CONFERENCE (JANAURY 26) GENERALLY WARM AND FA-  
VORABLE NOTICE. ALTHOUGH STILL SHYING AWAY FROM YI'S REFERENCES  
TO EMERGENCY MEASURE 9, PLEA FOR RELEASE OF MYONGDONG AND  
OTHER E.M. 9 DEFENDANTS, AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS,  
NDP LEADER WAS PRAISED FOR PRESENTING COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM AND  
IDENTIFYING HIS PARTY'S NEW YEARS' PROPOSALS WITH ASPIRATIONS  
OF PEOPLE AND NOT MERELY OFFERING OPPOSITION FOR SAKE OF  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SEOUL 00841 010721Z

OPPOSITION. EVEN WHEN YI'S VIEWS DIFFERED MODERATELY WITH  
STRICT INTERPRETATIONS OF ROKG POLICIES, PRESS NOTED FAVORABLY  
THAT YI HAD PROVIDED "RESPONSIBLE ALTERNATIVES."

2. ONE OF BEST RECEIVED SUGGESTIONS WAS YI'S CALL FOR STUDY  
AND REVISION OF ROKG GENERALLY UNPOPULAR RESIDENCE TAX WHICH  
NDP AND TONGA ILBO, AMONG OTHERS, HAD CAMPAIGNED HARD AGAINST

DURING LAST ASSEMBLY SESSION. YI'S PROPOSAL FOR BALANCE BETWEEN GREATER INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION AND AN INCREASE IN SOCIAL WELFARE RECEIVED SUPPORT AS DID HIS "STRONG AND RESPONSIBLE" POSITION ON NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS. PRESS ALSO NOTED THAT YI'S POSITION ON BALANCE BETWEEN "TOTAL NATIONAL SECURITY" AND "DEMOCRACY" LEANED MORE TO LATTER THAN DOES OFFICIAL ROKG POSITION. YI'S ANTI-CORRUPTION CRY EARNED YI MORE ACCOLADES.

3. ON NEGATIVE SIDE, PRESS NOTED THAT TWO KIM YONG-SAM STALWARTS ON NDP SENIOR SUPREME COMMITTEE DID NOT ATTEND PRESS CONFERENCE ALTHOUGH 23 NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMEN DID ATTEND. YI CHONG-HWAN WAS QUOTED AS DISLIKING YI'S MIDDLE-OF-ROAD POSTURE AND KIM CHOE-KWANG SAID HE "DIDN'T THINK HE NEEDED TO COME." YI CHOL-SUNG WAS ALSO FAIRLY UNIVERSALLY INSTRUCTED BY PRESS THAT HIS PROPOSALS MIGHT BE GIVEN MORE WEIGHT IF HE PUT HIS NDP HOUSE IN ORDER FIRST. AS REPORTED, DRP PRESS SPOKESMAN WAS HAPPY TO SEE YI PARTICIPATE SO RESPONSIBLY IN SUBJECT OF NATIONAL SECURITY AFFAIRS BUT FOUND YI'S DOMESTIC VIEWS "IDEALISTIC." DRP COMMENT ON CONFERENCE WAS MINIMAL AND ONE TOLD EMBOFF THAT SPOKESMAN HAD "SAID IT ALL." YUCHONGHOE MEMBERS WERE ALSO SILENT EXCEPT FOR SPOKESMAN WHO CLAIMED TO BE "DISAPPOINTED THAT NDP STILL CLUNG TO SUCH HOLLOW THEORIES."

4. COMMENT: HEAVY PRESS COVERAGE OF YI'S CONFERENCE REPORTED REFTTEL PLUS FAVORABLE EDITORIALS ARE UNUSUAL AND INDICATE ROKG SETTING YI UP AS MODERATE, ACCEPTABLE OPPOSITION.  
SNEIDER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, PRESS CONFERENCES, POLITICAL PARTIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 31-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977SEOUL00841  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770034-0765  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** SEOUL  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t1977012/aaaaabml.tel  
**Line Count:** 88  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** ce5c9ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 01-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3506761  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PRESS GIVES FAVORABLE NOTICES TO NDP CHAIRMAN'S PRESS CONFERENCE SUMMARY. ALL MAJOR NEWSPAPERS GAVE NDP CHAIRMAN'S  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINT, KS, US, (YI CHOL-SUNG)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/ce5c9ed1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009